AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application. Deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining.

Listing Of Claims:

1   1. An elastomeric gripping element, configured to fit over a gripping section of an
2   article, said gripping element comprising:
3   a textured outer surface; and
4   a plurality of elevated sections extending from said outer surface;
5   wherein said elevated sections are intercalated, spaced apart ~~shapes~~ polygons.

1   2. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said elevated sections are raised at least
2   about 0.1 mm above said outer surface.

1   3. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said elevated sections are raised at most
2   about 3.0 mm above said outer surface.

1   4. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element is formed from an anti
2   slip material.

1   5. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element is formed from a resilient
2   material.

1   6. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element is fabricated of a
2   thermoplastic elastomer.

1   7. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element has a Shore A hardness of
2   at least about 50 durometer.

1   8. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element has a Shore A hardness of
2   at most about 70 durometer.

1   9. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said elevated sections are sufficiently
2   spaced apart such that small particles cannot become lodged between said elevated sections

3 . and any particle large enough to become lodged between said elevated sections can be readily

4 dislodged.

1   10. The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said elevated sections have a smooth outer

2 surface.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace sheet 1 of the drawings with the attached Replacement Sheet 1. Replacement Sheet 1 contains amendments to Figs. 1 and 2. In Fig. 1, previously omitted reference character **32** has been added. In Fig. 2, previously omitted reference character **34** has been added.